

This life is the time of our preparation for our future state. Our souls will continue forever what we make them in this world.

READINGS

First Reading — All the peoples shall stream toward the LORD’S house (Isaiah 2:1-5).

Psalm — We will rejoice as we go up to the Lord’s house (Psalm 122).

Second Reading — It is the hour to cast off the dark and clothe ourselves in the light (Romans 13:11-14).

Gospel — Stay awake! Be prepared! The Son of Man will come when you least expect (Matthew 24:37-44).

MASS INTENTIONS

C = CHESTER * EG = ELLIS GROVE * J = PR DU ROCHER

Saturday, Nov. 26

4:00 PM (C) Ron & Luanne Korando

6:00PM (EG) Kenneth & Shirley Colvis

Sunday, Nov. 27

8:00AM (J) Ernie Doiron

10:00AM (C) Odelia Dethrow & Sadie Pahich

Monday, Nov. 28

8:15AM (C) NO MASS

Tuesday, Nov. 29

8:30AM (J) Welda DeRousse

Wednesday, Nov. 30

8:15AM(C) Barbara Hanger

Thursday, Dec. 1

8:00AM (C) For Vocations

Friday, Dec. 2

No Mass

Saturday, Dec. 3

4:00PM (C) Greg & William Paulus

6:00PM (J) Carol DuFrenne & Mildred Steibel

Sunday, Dec. 4

8:00AM (EG)

10:00AM (C) Carl Gardiner

There will be no morning Mass on Monday, Nov 28th in Chester due to reconciliation with the school children.

ST. MARY’S CHESTER SERVERS SCHEDULE:

Sat. Nov. 26, 4PM ~ Logan & Cole McDonald

Sun. Nov. 27, 10AM ~ Reed & Blake Petrowske

Sat. Dec. 3, 4PM ~ Ethan Colvis & Nathan Jany

Sun. Dec. 4, 10AM ~ Jackson Powell & Keegan Quandt

LECTORS & EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Sat. Nov. 26, 4PM ~ L: Joanie Heffernan EM: Larry Gross

Sun. Nov. 27, 10AM ~ L: Madi Kribs EM: Diana Miller

Sat. Dec. 3, 4PM ~ L: Paula Platt EM: Kelley Gardiner

Sun. Dec. 4, 10AM ~ L: Dainelle Powell EM: Sue Crain



By Fr. Sebastian

The first reading of today

(Isaiah 2:1-5) takes us to the prophecy of Isaiah where Jerusalem shall be elevated above every other place be a center for all God’s people. Instructions, counsel and direction will flow from there to the people of the Lord. Things that lead to war and division will be removed and the house of Jacob shall be a light to all nations.

The second reading (Romans 13:11-14) presents an injunction and reminder to us that our salvation is near. Saint Paul admonishes us to cast aside lethargy and vice in order to take up virtue. The provisions we make for the flesh should not drown the provisions we make for the desires of the spirit.

In the Gospel, (Matthew 24:37-44) Christ encourages us to be vigilant. We should not get carried away during this season, but should make more effort to prepare for the coming of the Lord. Advent is a time of preparation, longing and waiting in hope for the coming of our messiah. Have a blessed Advent season.

TITHE FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 13

St. Joseph’s: Weekly goal: \$1700

Envelopes (49) \$1,819 Loose: \$130 All Saints (5) \$111

St. Mary’s: Weekly goal \$7000

Collections \$5592; Cemetery \$264; Improve \$103; Sr

Anne \$15; Cath Camp \$1100; Donation \$3155.34;

Children’s Env \$3.00 ~ My good deed was: *helped my*

mom take laundry downstairs.

PRAYER REQUEST

If you have a family member that you would like added to our prayer request, please call the church office.

All homebound, nursing home residences, cancer patients, COVID-19 patients, Our Military & their families,

Tom Candelario, JoAnn Cowell, Randy Braun,

Marie Hess, Cathy Taylor, Steve Deterding,

Evelyn Marquardt, Carol & Roger Hess, Jackie Laurent,

Nellie Mollet, Father Gene, Brian Niermann, Janice Crow,

Mike Vasquez, Juanita Daschka, Kenny Pelate,

Nicole Dethrow-Doty, David Reid

MASS SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER

Saturday 4pm: St. Mary’s Chester

Saturday 6pm: St. Joseph Grove)

Sunday 8am: St. Mary Divine Maternity (Ellis Grove)

Sunday 10am: St. Mary’s Chester

BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

Kenny Pelate 11/27, Peyton Candler 11/27,

Debbie Ellner 11/28, Adam Walker 11/30

Chad & Kim Deterding 12/1

Richard & Pat Pautler 11/30

St. Mary’s ~ Once we have entered the special dates into our system, we will begin including our parishioners here. If you have a date coming up, you may call the office with the information Thank you!

PARTNERSHIP UPCOMING EVENTS

ST. JOSEPH DECEMBER CALENDAR: PLEASE NOTE CHANGES TO THE SERVING SCHEDULE.

GIFT CARDS: Get those Christmas gift cards now with quick and easy ordering! St. Mary’s School will get a percentage back from every card purchased. Order forms located at church entrance. Last day to submit orders is December 12th. Contact Tammy at Chester for help 618-826-2444

ST. MARY’S ANGEL TREE: The holidays are coming and it’s time to purchase your *angels*. Each beautifully crocheted angel is \$10, or if you are renewing your angel(s) from past years, the cost is \$5. Please write the memorial name(s), your name, along with payment and enclose it in an envelope marked “ANGEL”. You may place it in the collection basket, drop it off at the Parish House, or give it to Donna Ritter. All proceeds are donated back to the church. Last year we collected \$675. **Current donations received: \$160**

POINSETTIA’S: If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in memory of your loved ones, they will be \$20 each. Please write their name & your name (along with payment) and enclose in an envelope marked “POINSETTIA”. You may place it in the collection basket, mail it to the rectory, or drop it by the Parish house. Note: There will be both red and white poinsettias available this year.

ST. JOSEPH ANGEL TREE: This year our tree will benefit those at the Daystar Soup Kitchen. They are in need of #10 cans of vegetable and fruit. Clamshell containers, plastic silverware, bowls and plates. Please take an angel and purchase item, return it to church and

youth group will set up a day to take it down to Cairo. Collection will be from the 1st week of advent until the third week of advent.

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN

DEVELOPMENT: Thank you for your generous support last week for this much needed collection! Our donations will help support those on the margins who live in poverty in the United States. If you missed the collection, it’s not too late to give!

ST. ANDREW DINNER: Last Sunday evening St.

Mary’s hosted 10 gentlemen along with family members to enjoy a meal, hear more about the priesthood and the discernment process, and to have an opportunity to ask questions. A special thank you to all who made the dinner a success! Thank you to Bishop McGovern, Father Joel Seipp, Father Thomas Lugge, and Father Sebastian for their presentations and for providing answers to questions. Thank you to Steve Colonel and Mike Liefer for frying the chicken, Danny Miller and Daisy for providing dessert, to those who assisted with the clean-up, to Janelle and Mike Robinson and Tammy Kribs for setting up and serving the meal and cleaning up after the meal and a special thank you to Danny Miller for gathering all of the food and supplies and assisting with the meal. Please continue to pray for vocations and encourage those young men you feel would be good priests.

COMMUNION



If you are not able to attend Mass, whether homebound /hospital/assistance living, etc.

and would like to receive communion, please call **Diane Mudd at 618-284-7150 (Ruma)** or **Leonard DeRousse 618-284-2200 (Prairie du Rocher)**, **Rosemary Bert #618-615-6135 Rosemary Crain #618-615-5858 Paula Platt #618-615-5545 Martha McDonald #618-615-6624 (Chester)**

CARE MINISTRY-

Care Ministry is a ministry of compassion provided by volunteers who deliver small care packages to those in need and may bring communion if they're homebound or just a friendly face to talk with, you are not alone. God is with you. If you or a fellow parishioner have lost a loved one, are ill, or are recovering from surgery, please contact Lynne Gonzalez at 618-284-7702. If you are interested in joining our Care Ministry please contact Lynne



If you need the emergency power of prayer or want to belong to the prayer chain. Please call Marie Henry 618-282-2876 or 618-559-6511 (Prairie du Rocher); or Rosemary Bert 618-615-6135 or Martha McDonald 618-615-6624 (Chester).



PSR: NOV. CALENDAR
29TH Class for all

1st Reconciliation for our 2nd graders will be at 5:30pm on Saturday Dec. 10th. Parents please have your child at church by 5:15pm



Grades 7~12 Next Meeting we will bake cookies for the homebound and Nursing home Dec. 11 @4pm in Ellis Grove.

Any youth wanting to sign up please see Jill or call her at 618-719-9344. We will be meeting at St. Mary's Ellis Grove. Come and bring a friend, the more the merrier.

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 27th ~ St. Boniface Catholic Church Gym
Evansville Quilts, Hams & Cash Bingo @ 1:30PM; Food served starting at 11:00AM.

St. Patrick Catholic Church Ruma; Envelopes with tickets are located at the church entrance to be entered into the Quilt of the Month drawings. \$20 per ticket enters you into all 12 consecutive monthly drawings for beautiful queen-sized handmade quilts. For questions, contact Kathy Schmidt at 618-284-7274.

Chester Area Christian Food Pantry: We would like to inform you of our Holiday Food Drive for those in need. For the Christmas season, beginning Wed., Dec. 5, the Pantry will distribute a generous amount of seasonable foods to all clients, in addition to the regularly scheduled staples. Anyone interested in assisting toward this project may do so by making a monetary contribution to: CACFP, 693 West Holmes St., Chester. Thank you very much for your continued support of the Pantry!

Belleville Diocese Council Society of St. Vincent de Paul: With the holidays rapidly approaching, we write this letter with gracious heart. Grateful for generous people like you who have supported our efforts to serve the poor throughout the past year. We served over 100,000 meals, provided 15,395 nights of shelter, and assisted so many others with rent, utilities, etc. We thank you for your

ongoing and heartfelt support of this ministry and ask continued support during this upcoming Holiday Season. Makes checks payable to Society of St Vincent de Paul, PO Box 3415, East St Louis, IL 62203.

December 15th ~ St. Mary's B.V.M. Sodality is planning a trip to see the Christmas lights in Coulterville and Du Quoin. We plan to leave Chester at 4:30pm and will take as many individual cars as needed. Dinner will be at Pistol City in Coulterville (each person will be responsible for their own meal). After dinner we will travel to Du Quoin. There is a sign-up sheet at the church entrance for those who wish to attend. Please sign up by Dec. 11th in order for us to make reservations for the meal. We'd love to have you join us!

KUDOS

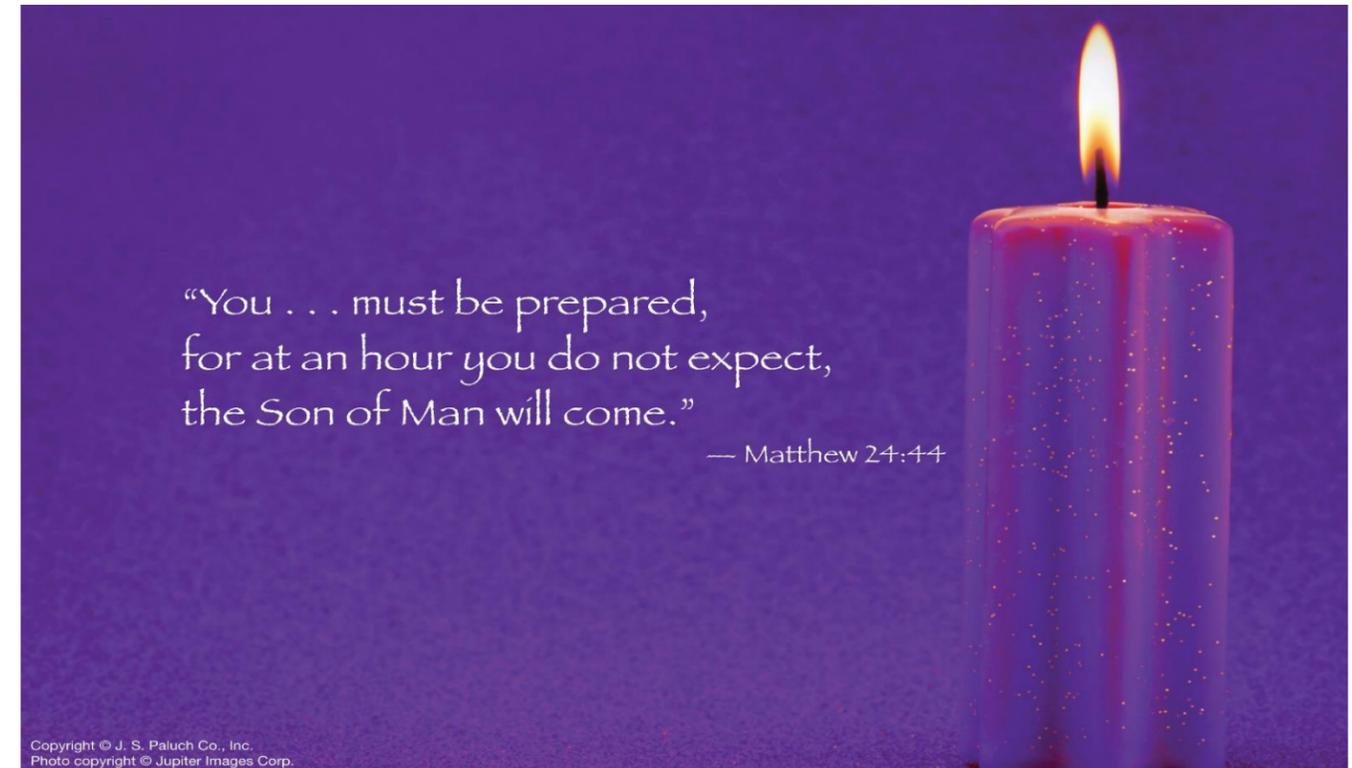
- To all who came to the Ecumenical service
- To all who came to Thanksgiving eve Mass
- To the PSR students for sharing their talents with us.
- To all who missed the Basketball game for the Ecumenical service, believe me God noticed

ADVENT CANDLE MEANING

The first candle, which is purple, symbolizes hope. It is sometimes called the "Prophecy Candle" in remembrance of the prophets, especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. It represents the expectation felt in anticipation of the coming Messiah.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES

To the family and friends of Brian Zeiger, may his soul and all the souls of the departed rest in peace.



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UKOH, CM

PASTOR

FR.SEBASTIAN

MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

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Parish Secretary: Tammy Kribs
Parish Phone: 618-826-2444
School Phone: 618-826-3120
Email: stmaryschester@yahoo.com

ST. MARY OF DIVINE MATERNITY

7362 Shawneetown Trail, Ellis Grove, IL 62241
Parish Secretary: Gerry Valleroy
Deacon Al Dubois
Parish Phone: 618-859-3541

ST. JOSEPH

802 Middle St, Prairie du Rocher, IL 62277
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